AN ACCOUNT OF THE *Foundation, and Eſtabliſhment* Of a Deſign, now on Foot, for a SETTLEMENT ON THE Golden Iſlands, To the SOUTH of PORT ROYAL IN CAROLINA. *By Authority of a Royal Charter.*

By John Barnwell.

LONDON:
Printed in the Year MDCCXX.

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The following Clauſe is extracted, verbatim, *from the* Charter, *by Authority whereof, the Lands and Powers, herein after mentioned, are granted; and the* Truſtees *have order'd it to be publiſh'd, that all Perſons concerned may have the Satisfaction of ſeeing the ſufficient Power, they are to act by.*

" ND further, of our eſpecial Grace, certain Knowledge, " and meer Motion, We have given, granted and con- " firm'd, and by theſe Preſents, *for Us, our Heirs, and* " *Succeſſors,* do give, grant and confirm unto the ſaid " Lords, *their Heirs and Aſſigns,* full and abſolute Power, " Licenſe and Authority, that *they, their Heirs and Aſſigns* may, from " Time to Time hereafter, for ever, at his or their Will and Pleaſure, *aſſign,* " *alien, grant, demiſe,* or *enfeoff* the Premiſſes, or *any Part or Parcel thereof,* " to him or *them,* that ſhall be willing to purchaſe the ſame; and to ſuch " *Perſon* or *Perſons,* as they ſhall think fit, to have and to hold, to the ſaid " *Perſon* or *Perſons, their Heirs and Aſſigns,* in Fee-ſimple or in Fee-tail, or " for Term of Life or Lives, or Years; *And to the ſame Perſon and Perſons,* " *and to all and every of them, We do give and grant, by theſe Preſents, for* " *Us, our Heirs and Succeſſors, Licence, Authority and Power, that ſuch* " *Perſon and Perſons may have and take the Premiſſes, or any Parcel there-* " *of, of the ſaid Lords, their Heirs and Aſſigns; and the ſame to hold to* " *them, their Heirs and Aſſigns, in what Eſtate of Inheritance ſoever, in* " *Fee-ſimple or in Fee-tail, or otherwiſe, as to the ſaid Lords, their Heirs* " *and Aſſigns, ſhall ſeem expedient: The Statute of* Quia emptores terrarum, " *or any other Statute, Uſe, Law, Cuſtom, or any other Matter, Cauſe or* " *Thing to the contrary, in any wiſe notwithſtanding.*

By Authority of the Royal Charter above-mention'd, the ſaid Lords Proprietors did, by Grant, bearing Date the 19th of *June,* 1717, bargain, ſell, alien, releaſe, enfeoff and confirm, to Sir *Robert Mountgomery* of *Skelmorly,* in the Sheriffdom of *Aire,* in *North Britain,* Baronet, his Heirs and

Assigns, a certain Tract of Land, between the Rivers *Allatamaha* and *Savanna*, which said Tract they erected into a distinct Province, with proper and independent Jurisdiction, under Name and Title of the *Margravate* of *Azilia*, to be held by the said Sir *Robert Mountgomery*, his Heirs and Assigns for ever.

Sir *Robert*, the more effectually to make Settlements in the said *Margravate*, and create a new Trade to arise from its Products, to the general Advantage of *Great Britain*, petition'd Encouragement from his Majesty, by Grant of a Lottery, the Profits whereof shou'd be applied for establishing such Settlement (as had formerly been practised for the Benefit of *Virginia*) and obtained a Report, from the late Attorney General, in Favour of his Petition; as also a Report, from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, that the said intended Settlement wou'd be of general Advantage, and deserved Encouragement accordingly.

In Pursuance of which good Ends, the said Sir *Robert*, by Indenture, bearing Date the third Day of *May* last, made Sale of the *Golden Islands*, being One hundred thousand Acres of the Lands so granted, as above-mention'd, and containing the great Islands of St. *Symon*, *Sapella*, St. *Caterina* and *Ogeche*, to the South of *Port Royal* in *Carolina*, together with the un-named woody Islands, without, within, or between them. And by the said Indenture subjected the Purchase-Money, arising from Sale of the said One hundred thousand Acres (in One thousand Allotments of One hundred Acres in each Allotment, at the Rate of twenty Shillings for every Acre) to be called in, and applied in Improvement of the said Lands, by five Trustees, for the common Benefit of all and every the Purchasers, their Executors, Administrators and Assigns for ever; with Reserve of a Right to Two hundred of the said Allotments, exempted from Payment of the first twenty-five Pounds *per Cent.* but liable to all further Calls, like the Rest of the Proprietors.

In Trust for the Uses above-mention'd, Sir *Robert Mountgomery* hath by the said Deed, to be seen at the Trustees Office, *bargain'd, sold, alien'd, releas'd, made over, and confirm'd to such five Trustees, to be assisted by five more, appointed legally, as Occasion may require, by the Purchasers for ever, all his Right, Title, Claim and Property, of, in, and to the One hundred thousand Acres above-mention'd, together with the Woods, Lakes, Rivers, Harbours, Bays, and Islets on the Coast of the said Islands, as also all Veins, Mines, or Quarries, of Gold, Silver, or any other Matter or Thing whatsoever, found, or to be found in the said Lands, and the Islands aforesaid; which shall hereafter be known, by one general Name of the* GOLDEN ISLANDS, *to the South of* PORT ROYAL *in* CAROLINA.

The said Trustees are to call in, and account from Time to Time, with the Proprietors and their Assigns, for all Sums call'd in, and receiv'd in Part of the said Purchase-Money, and to make Dividend once every Year, or oftner,

as

as they ſhall be able, of all Returns of Profit, in Proportion to the Claims upon the ſeveral Allotments, which Claims ſhall be known, and diſtinguiſh'd, by certain Inſtruments, after the Form, to the ſaid Deed annex'd, and ſign'd by Sir Robert Mountgomery, *and each of the ſaid Inſtruments ſo ſigned, and duly delivered, expreſſing the Sum received, ſhall be an Allotment, and aſcertain to the Bearer thereof, for ever, the Quantity of Land, and Proportion of Profits, conveyed to the ſaid Bearer, by Virtue of the Indenture (to which the ſaid Inſtruments do therefore refer) as effectually, to all Intents and Purpoſes, as if the Names of all, and every the ſaid Bearers, were expreſly in the ſaid Indenture, written and diſtinguiſhed.*

The Concern'd in this Undertaking may note two Things from the Premiſſes, 1*ſt*, That it can never be conſtrued to be within the Meaning of *Miſchievous Deſigns*, intended to be ſuppreſs'd by the late Act of Parliament, it being the *Sale* of a Man's *Lands* and *Eſtate*, with Subjection of the Purchaſe-Money, to carry on a Settlement, which, inſtead of being *miſchievous*, has been actually declared *beneficial*, and of *Publick Advantage* already, by the King's Attorney General, and the Lords Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations.

And, 2*dly*, It is plain, by the Clauſe above-copied from the *Charter*, that the Purchaſers of theſe Allotments, or *any empower'd by them*, have a *legal Authority to make Sale* of their Allotments of the ſaid Lands and Profits, to any *Perſon* or *Perſons*, who may be willing to purchaſe the ſame, without incurring, or becoming ſubject to any of the Penalties of the Act above-mentioned, any more, than if the ſaid Act had never been made.

Thus much it has been thought neceſſary to ſay, leaſt any of the Proprietors ſhou'd remain ignorant of the Stability of their Foundation: What follows will afford them ſome Light into their future Advantages.

All Proprietors of Allotments, who know, or ſhall hear of, any *Carpenters*, *Joiners*, *Smiths*, *Bricklayers*, *Husbandmen*, or *Labourers*, of fair Character; who are willing, on good Encouragement, to go over to the ſaid Iſlands, are deſir'd by the Truſtees, to direct them to their Houſe, *at the great Yellow Gates, over againſt the Church, in* Lothbury.

Letter from Colonel John Barnwell, *of* Carolina, *now in Town, to Sir* Robert Mountgomery, *containing the beſt, and trueſt Account, that can be given of the Country to be ſettled.*

SIR,

THE *Engliſh* on our Side the Ocean, heard with Pleaſure and Expectation, of your worthy Deſign of planting *Azilia*, and it gives me particular Satisfaction to find, on my late Arrival from *Carolina*, that you are purſuing it with Vigour.

Every thing that the *French* have propoſed to themſelves, by their new Colonies in *Miſſiſippi*, may, with greater Eaſe and Conveniency, be produced to the *Engliſh*, out of your Settlement; for all Ships bound from *France* to *Miſſiſippi*, muſt go almoſt round *Cuba*, paſs by *Hiſpaniola*, and very near *Jamaica*, and return through the Gulph of *Florida*; which Navigation all, who are acquainted with, know to be both tedious and dangerous; whereas the direct Paſſage to *Azilia* is as eaſie, ſhort, and ſafe, as a Voyage to *Virginia*.

We may be furniſhed from *Azilia* with many Commodities, that are now brought from the Coaſts of the *Mediterranean*, and other Countries in, or near the ſame Latitude; for by Trials, which have been made there, by myſelf, and my Neighbours, *Azilia* produces *Rice*, *Silk*, *Indigo*, *Cochinele*, *Maſts for Ships*, *Cedar*, *Myrtle Wax*, *Walnut-Tree*, *dying Woods*, and great *Timber*, *Pitch*, *Tar*, *Turpentine*, *Rozen*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, *Pot-Aſhes*, and *Cotton*; and had we *Olive-Trees* and *Almonds*, as we have *Oranges*, *Pomgranates*, *Peaches*, *Figs*, *Apples*, and *Pears*, they would, undoubtedly, do as well: And it is very reaſonable to believe many more *Fruits* and *Drugs*, growing in *Perſia*, in *India*, about *Lahore*, in *China*, and in *Japan*, Places lying in the ſame Climate, would thrive there, to the great Advantage of the *Britiſh* Nation, were proper Methods taken to procure the ſame.

You will never have Occaſion to provide Fodder for black Cattle, Horſes or Hogs; the Winter being ſo mild, that in few Years they will encreaſe prodigiouſly, as they have done in *Cuba* and *Hiſpaniola*, where they kill them only for their Hides and Tallow; as is alſo at this Time practiſed in thoſe Parts of *Carolina* bordering on your Settlement.

As for the *Indian Trade*, which takes off a great Quantity of our Woollen Manufacture, in Exchange for Buck-Skins, and other valuable Furs and Peltery, all this Trade muſt, of Neceſſity, center with *you*, as not only being

ing nearer to the *Indians*, who deal moſt, but alſo having Water-Carriage to within a little of their Towns. Theſe Advantages will ſoon oblige all our *Indian Traders* to take up their Reſidence in your Settlements.

I muſt not omit hinting to you the Advantage, that might accrue by a well regulated Commerce with the *Spaniards* of St, *Auguſtine*, St. *Joſeph*, and *Panſecola*, ſo very near your Iſlands, that moſt of their Money may paſs through, or center there. *Carolina*, at greater Diſtance, makes conſiderable Profit by this Traffick.

You may, in few Years, ſupply the Weſt *Indian* Iſlands with *Lumber* and *Proviſions*, cheaper than all the reſt of our Colonies on the Main of *America*, lying ſeveral hundred Leagues nearer to them, and being never liable to have your Harbours, or Rivers frozen up, but approachable by ſhipping, at all Times of the Year, which can't be done at *New England*, *New York*, or *Penſilvania*.

In Caſe of War with *France* or *Spain*, as you are ſeated juſt at the Mouth of the Gulph of *Florida*, a few Ships cruiſing there, would make it difficult for the *Plate-Fleet*, or the trading Veſſels of either of thoſe Nations, paſſing through that Gulph (which they muſt always do) to avoid being taken, between your ſelves on one Side, and the *Bahama Iſlands* on the other.

As to the four Iſlands which you have aſſign'd to the Purchaſers, who are concern'd in your Settlement, they are called St. *Symon*, *Sapella*, St. *Catarina*, and *Ogeche*; to which laſt, before I came thence, I left the Name of *Mountgomery*. You have given them a general Denomination, which, I think, they may well deſerve, of the *Golden Iſlands*; for as to convenient Paſture, pleaſant Situation, profitable fiſhing and fowling, they ſurpaſs any thing of that kind in all *Carolina*. They have all a Number of Sand-Hills, or Downs, on the Sea-Side, and the Way between theſe Sand-Hills and the Sea, is ſo plain and ſmooth, that it is a very great Pleaſure to travel upon it. Here and there run in among theſe Sand-Hills, ſmall Creeks of the Sea, repleniſh'd with great Quantity of ſeveral ſorts of Fiſh, which are eaſily taken, and great Flocks of wild Fowl. There are very good *Harbours* among theſe Iſlands.

They are almoſt *clear of Wood*, and by their Diſtance from the Continent, ſecured againſt any Inſult of the *Indians*. The four Iſlands above-named, contain above threeſcore thouſand Acres of good Land, beſides the Downs, very fit for Corn and Paſturage, and, as I ſaid, almoſt *void* of *Woods*, ſo that it is ready, without Labour, for the *Plow*.

In the four or five other Iſlands, belonging to theſe, there are above twenty-ſix thouſand Acres more, very good Soil, and full of cloſe Thickets and Woods, very proper for *Ship-building*.

This

This being an exact Deſcription of your *Golden Iſlands*, it is eaſie to infer, how fit they are for the Place of your Settlement. You may firſt ſtock them with Cattle, from the main Land of *Carolina*, and then, they will prove an inexhauſtible Source of Proviſion, better than ten Times that Quantity of Land on the Main, the Stocks being kept entire, ſecure from Beaſts of Prey, and without Poſſibility of Mixture.

I had Thoughts of informing you of ſeveral other Matters of Conſequence, not here enumerated, but I have already exceeded the Bounds of a Letter; I ſhall therefore only add, that I ſhall be ready to vouch the Truth of whatever I have herein advanced, whenever you ſhall find it neceſſary to undeceive any Perſon, who may queſtion it; wiſhing you Succeſs in an Undertaking, which, I am ſenſible, is ſo much to the Advantage of his Majeſty, and his Dominions, and to the Welfare of your Neighbours in *Carolina*, (who, I am well aſſured, will do all they can to aſſiſt and ſupport your laudable Undertaking.) I conclude, with very great Reſpect,

Your moſt obedient Servant,

John Barnwell.

P. S. I am generally once a Day at the *Carolina* Coffee-Houſe.

Note, The Proprietors of Allotments are deſired to take Notice, That all publick Advertiſements relating to this Settlement, and the Management thereof, will be printed in the *Poſt-Boy*.